

PRESS RELEASE



The Cleveland Museum of Art

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March 12, 1982

FOR RELEASE ON RECEIPT

ART MUSEUM LECTURE SERIES WILL SURVEY MODERN INTERIOR DESIGN

The Junior Council of The Cleveland Museum of Art will present a series of three public lectures on Modern Design and Interior Space at the Museum on May 4, 5, and 6, 1982. The series will survey the design of interior spaces and furnishings in Europe and America from the 1920s to the present. The lectures will also examine the work of Marcel Breuer--who was one of this century's most inventive and influential designers of furniture, homes, and public buildings (such as the Cleveland Museum's 1970 Education Wing)--to provide background for the exhibition, Marcel Breuer: Furniture and Interiors, which opens at the Cleveland Museum on June 16, 1982.

The lectures will be given by Anthony Vidler, associate professor of architecture at Princeton University; J. Stewart Johnson, curator of design at The Museum of Modern Art and co-organizer of the Marcel Breuer exhibition; and George Nelson, architect, designer, and writer, whose interior and product designs, notably his furniture designs for Herman Miller, Inc., have won international acclaim.

Professor Vidler will open the series on May 4 at 4:30 pm with a lecture entitled "Bauhaus Ideals." He will consider the cultural forces that shaped the Bauhaus, the famous school of modern design founded by Walter Gropius in Germany in 1919, and its programs and early influence. The second lecture, "A Fight for Modernism, 1920-1950," will be given by Mr. Johnson on May 5 at 8:30 pm.

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He will discuss the attempts of modernist designers, from the 1920s through World War II, to gain general acceptance, and the often vociferous resistance to modernism. In the final lecture, on May 6 at 4:30 pm, Mr. Nelson will discuss "The Interior in Europe and America, 1950-1982," commenting on contemporary design and the styles--Bauhaus and others--that continue to influence it.

Anthony Vidler graduated from Cambridge University, England, where he studied architecture and fine arts. Since 1965 he has taught at Princeton University, currently as associate professor of architecture and director of the European Cultural Studies Program. He is also founder and senior partner of Architectural Programming and Research Associates, New York City, whose projects include construction and renovation of a variety of facilities for the Manpower Training Administration in New York. He is a fellow of the Institute for Architecture and Urban Studies, New York City, and editor of Oppositions Journal, a journal of criticism in architecture and urbanism.

J. Stewart Johnson received his bachelor's degree from Swarthmore College and a master's degree in early American culture from the University of Delaware's Winterthur Program. Prior to being named curator of design at The Museum of Modern Art in 1976, he was curator of decorative arts at the Cooper-Hewitt Museum of Design, The Brooklyn Museum, and the Newark Museum. He has lectured and written extensively on the decorative arts and has organized a number of exhibitions of works of modern designers for The Museum of Modern Art. He is a founder and past president of the Victorian Society in America and a member of the International Advisory Committee of the Decorative Arts Society.

George Nelson is president of George Nelson Associates, designers of products, graphics, and interiors. Trained as an architect at Yale, he won the Rome Prize in Architecture, and spent two years of study in Italy. A series of articles on

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the work of Europe's pioneering modern architects brought him an invitation to join Architectural Form as an associate editor. As a practicing architect and designer, he developed, in 1942, the concept of the now familiar pedestrian mall, and in the following year the storagewall, since widely used in offices and homes. His first office furniture, designed for Herman Miller, Inc., in 1946, remains an industry standard. Nelson has lectured widely and is the author of numerous articles and several books, including Problems of Design, which has been translated into Japanese and Russian. He is a fellow of the American Institute of Architects, the Industrial Designers Society of America, The Royal Society of Arts (London), and the American Academy in Rome. He has received many awards and honors from these societies and other institutions for his contributions to design.

Tickets for the 1982 Junior Council Lecture Series, which will be presented in the Museum's Gartner Auditorium, can be purchased in advance from the Museum's Membership Department (by check payable to the Junior Council, The Cleveland Museum of Art) or at the door of the auditorium before each lecture. Series tickets are \$12.00 (\$5.00 for students), and single tickets are \$5.00 (\$2.00 for students). Proceeds of ticket sales benefit the Museum.

Chairing the 1982 Junior Council Lecture Series are Mrs. John E. Smeltz and Mrs. Sevier Bonnie, Jr.

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For additional information, please contact the Public Relations Office, The Cleveland Museum of Art, 11150 East Boulevard, Cleveland, Ohio 44106; 216/421-7340.